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THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE TO ALLEVIATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF WAR IN CROATIA AND TO FACILITATE ITS RECOVERY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 28 December 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to present to you herewith the joint communiqué, dated 18 December 1992, addressed to the Summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council, signed by His Excellency Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and His Excellency Dr. Franjo Tudjman, President of the Republic of Croatia (see annex).

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter and the joint communiqué as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 143 and 144, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
and Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Joint communiqué, dated 18 December 1992, of the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, and the President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, to the Summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council

Mr. Chairman,

We present this joint communiqué with the desire that you inform the Summit of the Gulf Cooperation Council, gathered at this exceptionally important and challenging moment in international relations, of the perspective of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia towards the dangerous developments of the military and political conditions on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, which is to say in the region of south-eastern Europe, the Balkans and the Mediterranean.

We share the belief that the aggression by Serbia/Montenegro against independent and sovereign Bosnia and Herzegovina, as had been the case earlier in Croatia, is the most dangerous challenge to regional security and world peace. In the light of the threatening expansion of the war, the fate of our two States as well as the fate of other peoples and countries is, according to our opinion, the greatest moral and political challenge to the world community.

On the international scene, there are increasingly stronger demands that this moral imperative be finally responded to with decisive action. Any postponement of fast, decisive and resolute action based on global political agreement among regional, political, religious and other factors of the international community would mean a retreat before the dictates of force and the abandonment of the most enlightened principles of law and order and the yielding before an aggression which, in its brutality and barbarism, is unprecedented in the modern history of mankind.

As a powerful regional association, the Gulf Cooperation Council can greatly contribute with its political influence in the United Nations and other forums, thereby strengthening the general agreement of all international factors in the interest of decisively stopping the aggression. Your association, we believe, will decisively stand up against the present attempts of the regime in Belgrade, which is in fear of international military action, to legalize the results of conquest through hypocritical negotiations and offers of partial withdrawal.

We are convinced that the Gulf Cooperation Council and other associations, including the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), will use their influence to continue the political, economic and financial support and

assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia and long-term financing of the renewal and development of our two countries.

The recent extraordinary session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers called for the United Nations Security Council to consider the compliance and implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions by Serbia/Montenegro (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia) and to decide about the need to implement decisive measures. The States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council will surely understand the need for decisive military action under the auspices of the United Nations in subduing aggression. It was precisely in your region that the United Nations approved military measures in the name of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Kuwait. Recently the United Nations approved military measures in the name of humanitarian protection of the biologically imperilled population of Somalia.

Our countries are imperilled by both these threats, which have up till now been the reasons for international military action. Because of this we see even less justification for the postponement of the use of force against the forces of aggression in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the rebel Serbian forces in Croatia and the enabling of our peoples to exercise their right to self-defence in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

We are convinced that the States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council will extend support to our just requests.

(Signed) Dr. Franjo TUDJMAN
President of the Republic of Croatia

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC
President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

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